

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PACING DELIVERY OF STREAMING MEDIA  
DATA

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5           A method for reducing output traffic bursts in a streaming media cache  
includes receiving a request from a first client system for a stream of media data, the stream  
of media data including a first streaming media data packet and a second streaming media  
data packet, receiving a request from a second client system for the stream of media data,  
receiving the first streaming media data packet from an upstream server, the first streaming  
10 media data packet including a delivery time, determining a first modified delivery time for  
the first streaming media data packet, determining a second modified delivery time for the  
first streaming media data packet, the first modified delivery time different from the second  
modified delivery time, modifying the first streaming media data packet with the first  
modified delivery time to form a first modified first streaming media data packet, modifying  
15 the first streaming media data packet with the second modified delivery time to form a  
second modified first streaming media data packet, outputting the first modified first  
streaming media data packet to the first client system at the first modified delivery time, and  
outputting the second modified first streaming media data packet to the second client system  
at the second modified delivery time.

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